



REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

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Harrisburg, Pa.



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, WILLIAM W. SCRANTON, GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LELAND H. BULL, SECRETARY

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

Department of Agriculture

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Bureau of Markets

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Bureau of Plant Industry

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State Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Charles F. Hess, Director

State Farm Products Show Commission

Horace L. Mann, Farm Show Director

State Harness Racing Commission

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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
HARRISBURG

SECRETARY

September 3, 1964

The Honorable William W. Scranton
Governor of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Governor Scranton:

Consumers share with producers, processors and distributors the many benefits derived from an Agribusiness that keeps pace with the times and contributes to the success of the NEW Pennsylvania.

Many services of the Department of Agriculture help Agribusiness to be aggressive and responsive to the demands of the consumers, especially in the area of grading, certification and quality control of farm products.

This report provides more detailed information regarding the services of the Department. Collectively, these reports are evidence of activities pointing toward the achievement of a dual goal for both the Department and Agribusiness: To provide consumers with quality foods at reasonable prices and to help producers and processors increase their incomes and strengthen the Commonwealth's overall economy.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "L. H. Bull".

L. H. Bull

Highlights of 1963-64

- Pennsylvania becomes nation's fourth state to adopt frozen food code, designed to assure consumers highest quality products.
 - First buyer's guides published, to furnish commodity buyers with information about sources of supply of Pennsylvania farm products.
- Certified Egg Program expanded to include liquid and frozen eggs. First plant started packing frozen eggs in spring of 1964.
 - Initial steps taken to set up hog cholera eradication program in conjunction with nationwide effort to stamp out this disease.
- New approach taken to gypsy moth control in Poconos. Sevin, a less toxic insecticide, replaced DDT used in previous spray programs.
 - Rules and regulations adopted for Controlled Atmosphere Storage of apples for improved fruit quality and longer marketing season.
- Apple Marketing Advisory Council organized, first of many such groups that will develop promotion and marketing plans.
 - New detection method, examination of slaughter cattle, aids bovine tuberculosis testing program; 22 infected animals found and traced to herds of origin. Testing of herds disclosed 147 reactors.
- Disbursed almost half a million dollars in Fair Fund monies to qualified organizations.
 - Treated 1,549 acres in Erie with soil insecticide in State's first program to control European chafer beetle.

Administrative Services

The new Department of Agriculture Building, opposite the Farm Show arena, was nearing completion as the fiscal year ended and is expected to be ready for occupancy by late summer.

Much of the work during the year involved interior construction, equipment installation and landscaping. Administrative Services personnel contributed a great deal of time and effort in preparing office layouts and specifying equipment requirements.

When completed, the building will provide modern office and laboratory facilities for all bureaus of the

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. In addition, it will house the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission, the State Harness Racing Commission, the Milk Control Commission, the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service and the Federal Animal Disease Eradication Division.

Administration

Fifty employees attended special training courses offered during the year by the Office of Administration. Subjects included use of dictating equipment, calculators, electric typewriters, the improvement of written communications, typing and shorthand skills, and the utilization of administrative techniques. Such courses are offered periodically through the Office of Administration or other agencies to help employees take advantage of opportunities to improve their skills and techniques.

The Department's automotive fleet was modernized during the year, with 144 new automobiles replacing older vehicles, many of which had



Governor Scranton laying the cornerstone for new Agriculture Department Building.

been driven well over 100,000 miles. In addition, 16 new trucks were purchased for use in diversified field activities.

Increasing the scope of Milk Ring Testing from two test periods a year to three increased the workload of the data processing unit. In addition to this and various other statistical services for the Department, the unit processed 160,000 calfhood vaccination certificates, 1,300 livestock dealer's licenses, 2,700 meat handler's licenses, 2,400 ice cream dealer's licenses, 4,100 bakery licenses and 2,500 nursery applications.

There were 476 employees in the Department at the close of the fiscal year. During the year, there were 135 full-time appointments and 111 separations. Sixty civil service employees attained permanent status under the new provisions of the Civil Service Act.

Public Information

Three hundred and thirteen news releases were prepared and distributed to help keep the public informed of the many activities and

services of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and of many trends in, and the progress of Agribusiness.

In addition, special releases were prepared about various events, particularly the Pennsylvania Farm Show, the Pennsylvania Livestock Exposition, and the Junior Dairy Show. Press, radio and television service was also provided during these events and for specialized commodity promotion programs.

Three major public relations efforts were carried out successfully. One, in Erie, gained public support for a soil treatment project to check the European chafer beetle. Another, in the Pocono Mountain area, helped overcome resistance to the annual spray program to control gypsy moths. The third helped calm public concern about false reports that eggs were contributing to a health problem in Eastern hospitals. Lesser in scope, but of strong importance, were other public relations projects completed for each major commodity area.

EMPLOYEES, June 30, 1964		
	Number	Percentage Of Total
Executive and General Administration.....	41	9
Animal Industry.....	224	47
Foods and Chemistry.....	81	17
Markets.....	50	10
Plant Industry.....	30	6
Harness Racing.....	9	2
Farm Show.....	33	7
Soil Conservation.....	8	2
Total.....	476	100

Bureau

of

Animal

Industry

A renewed attack on animal disease was launched this year when initial steps were taken to set up a hog cholera eradication program.

It is part of a nationwide effort to wipe out the disease that costs swine growers of the United States an estimated \$40 million annually. The program is divided into four distinct phases, with the end of 1969 set as the target date for achieving practical eradication.

The Bureau of Animal Industry initiated the first phase in Pennsylvania in the spring of 1964. It involves organizing a state-wide hog cholera eradication committee; setting up a system for prompt reporting of all outbreaks, and re-emphasis on garbage cooking and inspection of operations employing this method of feeding.

Tuberculosis Division

A new phase of testing—post mortem examination of cattle slaughtered under state or federal inspection—is proving to be a valuable aid in the continuing battle to stamp out bovine tuberculosis.

During the fiscal year, 22 infected animals—20 from Pennsylvania farms—were discovered through this

method and all were traced to the herds of origin. Testing of the Pennsylvania herds disclosed 147 reactors—14 per cent of the total number of reactors found in the complete testing program.

A total of 420,510 cattle in 23,997 herds were tested under the area plan, and 402,314 head in 9,132 herds were tested under the individual plan during the year.

As a result of the intensive program carried out by this division, the number of problem, or “Red Flag” herds has been reduced to one. There were seven in 1963, twelve in 1962, and twenty-two in 1961.

Brucellosis Division

Four more counties, making a total of 11 in Pennsylvania, were approved as certified brucellosis-free areas by the U.S. Bureau of Animal Industry during the fiscal year. The latest counties to be approved are Cameron, Columbia, Potter and Snyder. Twenty-six other counties were re-certified as modified brucellosis-free areas.

A sharp drop in the incidence of bovine brucellosis—0.07 per cent of the animals tested and 0.59 per cent of the herds involved—was noted during the fiscal year. This compares to 0.12 per cent of cattle and 1.01 per cent of herds in the previous 12-month period.

A total of 566,031 cattle in 37,051 herds were blood tested in the program. Only 364 non-vaccinated animals and 69 vaccinates over 30 months of age in 221 herds gave positive reactions. Totals in the previous year were 599 non-vaccinated animals and 153 vaccinates in 368 herds.

In order to maintain closer vigilance over the health of dairy cattle, a fourth milk ring test unit was placed in operation March 1, 1964, and tests

are now made at four-month intervals instead of semi-annually as in the past. More than a million animals are now tested periodically, and the incidence of infection has dropped to .002 per cent.

Miscellaneous Disease Division

All known sheep flocks of Pennsylvania, totaling 7,962, were inspected as part of the continuing program to maintain the Commonwealth's status as a scabies free area. Of the total, 66 flocks were considered suspect and were re-examined. In the subsequent inspection, 62 were found to be negative, but infestation was found in four flocks. These were dipped under official supervision before they were released from quarantine.

In addition, the division investigated 19 cases of rabies, 16 of hog cholera, ten of swine erysipelas, five of blackleg, and one each of cattle mange and infectious ecthyma.

Eighty animals were certified and licensed in the stallion registration program; 180 operations were licensed for the garbage feeding of swine and were periodically inspected, and 51 laymen were licensed to draw blood samples for use in the pullorum disease testing program.

Meat Hygiene Division

The division issued 4,109 licenses during the year—2,706 to meat handlers, 1,323 to livestock dealers, 69 to rendering plants, and 11 to horse slaughtering establishments.

Twelve abattoirs were found to be defective and three were closed during the course of 7,276 abattoir inspections conducted during the fiscal year. Other inspections included 1,321 of meat markets and 3,228 of livestock auctions.

Prosecution was brought in only one case during the year, resulting in a \$100 fine being collected.



Consumers demand top quality in meat.



Volume grows to meet consumer demand.

Also included in the work of the division were:

Animals slaughtered under inspection—598,519 passed; 1,716 condemned.

Dressed carcasses examined—224,230 passed; 133 condemned.

Meat and meat products examined—86,924,001 pounds passed; 6,530 pounds condemned.

Poultry examined—2,178,658 pounds.

Stocker pigs vaccinated at auctions—59,784.

Ante mortem examinations at auctions—1,600,163.

Animals quarantined—458; 223 passed; 102 condemned; 129 died.

Laboratory, Diagnostic Services

A total of 622,275 animal specimens and 1,060,289 poultry specimens were examined at the Summerdale laboratory. A large proportion of the specimens were cattle blood samples tested for brucellosis and chicken blood samples tested for pullorum disease.

Brucellosis tests were made of

598,100 animal blood samples, with only 642 positive identifications resulting, or about one-tenth of one per cent of the total.

The specimens represented 29 animal species and 15 species of birds. Among the unusual were two bob cats, one mole, four shrews and eight monkeys.

Testing of 1,395,901 poultry blood samples at Summerdale and five regional laboratories demonstrated complete freedom from pullorum disease and fowl typhoid in all tested flocks.

Dog Law Enforcement

Agents investigated 504 damage claims during the fiscal year, resulting in payment of indemnities totaling \$26,998. In addition, agents destroyed 2,899 dogs while special officers disposed of 29,155 stray dogs.

A total of 818,574 individual dog licenses and 6,458 kennel licenses were issued. Revenue, including fines from 2,726 prosecutions, totaled \$1,124,048.25.

The division issued 238 mink propagating permits, resulting in revenue of \$5,950.

Bureau

of

Foods

and

Chemistry

The basic responsibility of the Bureau relates to consumer protection. The field staff of each division makes certain that the products within its jurisdiction are suitable for their specific purpose and are properly labeled. This applies to food for human consumption, milk and milk products, and to the "raw materials"—such as feed, fertilizer, liming materials and pesticides—which the farmer uses to produce meat, milk, eggs, fruits, vegetables and grains.

Division of Food Control

Inspectors assigned to this division made 24,550 inspections of establishments where food for human consumption is either manufactured, warehoused or sold. During these inspections, 5,937 samples were obtained and submitted to our laboratories in Erie, Pittsburgh, Wilkes-Barre and Philadelphia where they were checked for compliance with standards of composition, freedom from adulteration and for proper labeling.

Most of the samples conformed to the prescribed standards. Where corrective action was indicated, infrac-

tions generally were not deliberate and written or oral warnings brought compliance in most instances. In some cases, it was necessary to institute legal action.

It appears, from results of this program, that the health, confidence and pocketbook of the consumer are well protected in Pennsylvania.

In compliance with provisions of the various food laws, 30,608 licenses were issued by the Bureau, more than two-thirds of them to retailers of margarine.

Division of Milk Sanitation

This division is basically responsible for supervising the production and processing of milk and milk products, working primarily with the dairy farms and the dairy plants of the state.

Nearly 3,200 inspections of milk plants and more than 4,350 routine farm inspections were made by the division's sanitarians. In addition, 88 final and 35 preliminary surveys were made as a result of a cooperative program with the U. S. Public Health Service.

More than 1,750 samples of milk and milk products were examined bacteriologically and for completeness of pasteurization. The division also issued 911 certificates to approved inspectors who assist with the enforcement program.

Feed and Fertilizer Division

As a result of this program, 3,744 samples of animal feed were collected and analyzed to make certain they complied with declared guarantees for protein, fat and fiber. Also, 1,208 fertilizer samples were checked for their plant nutrient content, and 341 samples of liming materials and other miscellaneous samples were analyzed.

Results of these analyses are contained in the bulletin published annually by this division. More than 2,850 copies were distributed to manufacturers of these products, and to county agents, vocational agriculture teachers and other interested parties.

The Feed and Fertilizer inspectors, as part of their regular duties, also obtained 798 samples for the seed laboratory of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Considerable time and money was saved as a result of this cooperative effort.

Laboratory Section

With the exception of some perishable foods, the vast majority of the official samples were analyzed in the laboratory which is a vital part of the Bureau.

The laboratory was staffed, at the close of the fiscal year, with two food chemists, six agricultural chemists, a bacteriologist and four technical assistants. The staff will be expanded

and the program increased after laboratory quarters in the new Department of Agriculture Building are occupied.

Major Accomplishments

The period covered by this report saw the development and promulgation of a frozen food code, the revision and promulgation of regulations relating to sausage and other meat products, and the completion of the organizational chart with the selection of division chiefs.

Pennsylvania was the fourth state to adopt a frozen food code and requests for copies indicate that it may well serve as a model for the codes of other states.

Several training sessions for inspectors were conducted during the year. The period also was characterized by an increasing degree of cooperation with the Federal Food and Drug Administration and the Meat Inspection Division of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.



Inspection service protects consumer welfare.

Bureau

of

Markets

Reorganization of functions and responsibilities in the four divisions of the Bureau of Markets resulted in greater achievement in the past fiscal year, creation of new and higher goals, and more harmonious relationships within the Bureau and with other organizations in government and private industry.

In addition to increased effort in enforcement activities, the Bureau initiated a number of new projects designed to strengthen the marketing effort for Pennsylvania food products.

The total number of inspections made by enforcement agents greatly exceeds figures of the previous fiscal year. At the same time, the Bureau

took on the additional work of disbursing funds under the new Pennsylvania Fair Fund legislation.

New promotional aids included hatchery and egg processing plant sanitation programs, a certified liquid and frozen egg program, establishment of marketing advisory councils, expansion of mushroom grading to include a new market news service, a pilot Christmas tree grading program, an egg storage and handling survey and development of pilot projects in the marketing of livestock other than lambs. At the same time, lamb pools were expanded, as were promotion efforts for many other commodities.

All of these emphasize the fact that it has become necessary to stimulate a desire to buy Pennsylvania quality products. It is important to offer products that please consumers; that are competitively priced, and that are convenient to obtain and use.

Whetting the consumer appetite in this manner is, primarily, the responsibility of growers, processors, packers and distributors acting either singly or collectively. The Bureau of Markets counsels and assists the various groups in planning better marketing programs for better products.

Fruit and Vegetable Division

Two important advances were made during the fiscal year in the field of quality control to provide consumers with better fruits and vegetables.

One was the establishment of U.S. Standards for mushrooms for processing that became effective April 1, 1964. Much of the work was done in Pennsylvania, heart of the nation's mushroom industry, with division personnel working closely with U.S. Department of Agriculture personnel to develop these standards.



Mushroom industry meets challenge of foreign competition.

The other was adoption of regulations for controlled atmosphere storage of apples. Under this program, apples are kept in sealed rooms with relatively low oxygen content to maintain fruit in tree-fresh condition. It also permits a longer, more orderly marketing season.

Enforcement of the compulsory marking law involved checking 11,301

lots of potatoes. A total of 194 violations were detected, resulting in 101 prosecutions.

Adverse growing conditions last season had marked effect on the volume of produce inspected and graded. Basically, the number of lots for inspection was not affected to any great degree, but the average size of lots was smaller.

	1963-64 Fiscal Year	Previous Fiscal Year	Change
Fruits and vegetables inspected for fresh market (carlot equivalents).....	1,080	1,375	Down 21%
Fruits and vegetables inspected for processing (tons)	290,730	317,204	Down 8.3%
Fruits and vegetables inspected at destination markets (carlot equivalents).....	177	44	Up 300%
Fruits and vegetables inspected at state institutions (pounds)	638,003	642,159	Down 0.5%

Livestock and Dairy Division

A total of 26,262 lambs were graded at pool sales in the second full year of this program—7,780 more than in the previous year. As a result of the increased volume, producers' gross income expanded to approximately \$498,978—about \$165,000 more than last year's return. High quality again characterized lambs consigned to pool sales. The value per head was comparable to that of 1963.

Division personnel graded 1,854 veal calves and 4,092 lambs at the Pennsylvania livestock auctions, and 1,118 feeder calves at special sales in Indiana and Waynesburg. Lower market hog prices tended to slow the movement of feeder pigs. The number graded—8,000—was approximately 20 per cent less than a year earlier.

Livestock market news provided more comprehensive coverage than in the past, reporting on the sale of 568,778 animals compared to 370,917 head a year ago. The information was disseminated to the public in 676 releases during the year. In addition, reports were broadcast by 24 radio stations and appeared regularly in 100 newspapers.

Progress has been made in developing a practical price reporting method as a major step toward establishing a dairy replacement market news service.

A unique method of growing veal calves by using a milk replacement feed has been introduced in Bradford County. Division personnel assisted in selecting, grading and marketing the calves. Groups in Cumberland, Dauphin and York counties have expressed interest in the project.

Market Development Division

One of the first steps of this newly-organized division was to develop plans for marketing advisory councils. These groups, composed of people with production or marketing backgrounds, advise the Secretary of Agriculture about specific commodity marketing programs.

The Apple Marketing Advisory Council, first of these new groups, began functioning before the close of the fiscal year and recommended a 15-point program to improve the state's apple industry. Similar councils are planned to promote all major commodities produced in Pennsylvania.

Another step toward expanding markets for Pennsylvania agricultural products was the development and publication of buyers' guides. The object is to inform buyers of sources where they may obtain various commodities, and also the quantities that will be available. Three such guides—one each for vegetables, apples and peaches—are being produced for distribution during the 1964 season.

A new publication, "Market Horizons," was introduced as another medium to stimulate marketing of Pennsylvania products. The four-page monthly publication supplies timely and pertinent information to the various segments of Agribusiness.

Opening of a field office in Kennett Square in the early summer of 1964 will permit development of a market news service, one of several projects designed to aid the mushroom industry of Pennsylvania meet competition from imported products. Other projects are intended to promote the sale of fresh mushrooms.

Major promotions during the year were directed at broadening markets for Pennsylvania produced lamb and Pennsylvania produced eggs. The



Preparing market guides.

lamb promotion program has been copied in a number of other sheep producing states.

A survey was conducted to determine purchasing procedures, holding and storage conditions, and preparation methods used by mass feeding establishments in handling eggs.

Work progressed markedly in all six Federal-State matched fund projects which promote commodity areas.

Poultry and Egg Division

Activities of this division were highlighted by these events:

1. Introduction of a Certified liquid and frozen egg program.
2. An increase of 11 per cent in the volume of shell eggs certified.
3. Increased importance of Pennsylvania as a supplier of hatching eggs and baby chicks to foreign countries.

The export trade increased sharply over the previous year. A total of 4,050,805 baby chicks—more than 5 per cent of the annual hatch in Pennsylvania—was shipped abroad during the fiscal year. This was an increase of 6.7 per cent over the previous year. In the same period, 561,009 dozens of hatching eggs were exported, a gain of 2.5 per cent.

Contributing to this advance was the classification of hatcheries and breeders in the National Poultry Improvement Plan. Another factor was the new Hatchery Sanitation Program. Air samples from 31 hatcheries were analyzed and corrective steps, where necessary, were recommended.

Fifty plants, compared to 42 a year earlier, were operating under the Pennsylvania Certified Egg Program. Volume rose to 34,716,450 dozens of eggs, 11 per cent more than the previous year's total of 31,267,350 dozens.

The program was expanded with adoption in January of standards for Certified liquid and frozen eggs. One plant began operations in the spring of 1964. Seven others are contemplating participation in the program.

Two random sample tests were conducted—one an egg laying test for pullets, the other a turkey meat production test. There were 2,324 pullets and 1,636 turkeys involved.

Inspectors examined 26,643 cases of eggs purchased by state institutions, compared to 16,856 cases the previous year. Much of the gain re-

flected increased purchasing of Pennsylvania produced eggs.

Agents made 21,167 inspections under the Pennsylvania Fresh Eggs Law and the Pennsylvania Egg Standards. One hundred and fifty cases were prosecuted, resulting in fines totaling \$3,125.

Federal-State Inspection

Introduction of USDA graded frying chickens by a large food chain and substantial increases in every area of activity highlighted poultry and egg programs under the Federal-State Cooperative Agreement.

For the second consecutive year, inspectors examined carload shipments of chickens and turkeys purchased for school lunch programs. One hundred and twenty cars were inspected throughout the state. Contents of one car that had caught fire in transit were rejected because of smoke damage. Part of another carload was rejected because of damage resulting from defrosting.

Pennsylvania processors were awarded federal contracts to supply 1,530,000 pounds of chicken and 745,037 pounds of turkey for school



New plant begins packing Pennsylvania Certified Frozen Eggs.



USDA graded poultry.

lunch programs—increases of 500,000 and 200,000 pounds respectively over the previous year. Processors also supplied the Department of Defense, under contract, with 2,997,001 pounds of poultry and 104,002 cases of shell eggs.

Inspection work during the fiscal year included: 832,522 cases of eggs graded compared to 712,547 cases the previous year; 51,809 cases of eggs produced under the Quality Control Program, an increase of 25 per cent; 11,767,093 pounds of turkeys graded, up 46 per cent.

Crop Reporting Service

The Crop Reporting Service is the fact-finding agency sponsored jointly by the Pennsylvania and United States Departments of Agriculture.

Its primary function is to collect farm facts pertaining to all facets of the agricultural industry of the Commonwealth, analyze and interpret the results, determine official estimates of crops and livestock and then disseminate information to farmers, allied agricultural interests and the general public.

Each month the Crop Reporting Service issues reports of state and national estimates of acreage, yield and production for all the principal

crops, and for livestock and livestock production. In addition, numerous special reports are issued relating to dairy, poultry and eggs, fruit, vegetables, potatoes and tobacco, livestock numbers and livestock products, hatchery production, and prices received by farmers.

Weekly reports are issued for broiler chick production, and crop and weather conditions.

Approximately 25,000 volunteers serve as reporters on the Pennsylvania farm front. This group consists largely of active farmers, but also includes representatives of mills and elevators, banks, milk receiving stations, livestock auctions, retail businesses, slaughter plants, processing plants, cooperatives and other allied agricultural interests.

During the fiscal year, 310 surveys were conducted. From the results of these surveys, a total of 775,000 copies of separate reports were distributed.

Fair Funds

A total of \$773,000 was made available to the Pennsylvania Fair Fund from proceeds derived from the first season of pari-mutuel harness racing in Pennsylvania. Disbursement of this fund was made in accordance with provisions of the State Harness Racing Law.

A total of \$442,600 was shared by 194 fair organizations, including 101 agricultural youth groups, which qualified for participation in the fund. The balance of the Pennsylvania Fair Fund for which organizations did not qualify—\$330,400—was turned back to the State's general treasury.

These payments to fairs were in addition to \$55,000 appropriated annually by the Legislature for distribution in proportion to amounts of premiums paid by the fairs for competitive agricultural events.

Bureau

of

Plant

Industry

One of the important, but lesser known services of the Bureau of Plant Industry is in the field of insect identification.

During the past fiscal year, approximately 1,200 specimens of 225 species were identified for individuals, entomologists and other government agencies. In many cases, the identification report was accompanied by recommendations for control of the insect.

The main aid in identification is the Bureau's vast insect collection that includes more than 60,000 specimens of about 10,630 species, most of which were collected in Pennsylvania. The collection is being continually enlarged and improved. In the past year, 1,904 specimens of 435 species were added. Sixty-seven of the species were new to the collection.

Insect, Disease Control

The Bureau participated, cooperatively with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, in seven insect and disease control projects to safeguard woodland and crop producing areas of Pennsylvania. These included:

Gypsy Moth—A total of 18,360 acres in six locations in Pike, Monroe and

Northampton counties were sprayed in the annual control program in the Pocono Mountain area. DDT, the insecticide used in previous years, was replaced by Sevin, a chemical that breaks down into harmless compounds a week or two after application. Later, 13,000 traps were placed in northeastern counties to detect any possible new infestations.

An unusual problem developed in connection with the program. Bees are very susceptible to Sevin, and colonies had to be moved out of areas that were to be sprayed.

European Chafer Beetle—County and city agencies joined Federal-State teams in treating 1,549 acres in Erie city with Dieldrin. Approximately 5,500 individual properties were involved in the section where beetles had been observed. More than 300 chemical and light traps for detection purposes were placed in the Erie, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg and Philadelphia areas.

Cereal Leaf Beetle—Federal and State surveys were begun to guard against the spread of this destructive insect into Pennsylvania from infested areas of Indiana, Michigan and Ohio. Surveys in 1963 and in the spring of 1964 proved negative. An uncertified truckload of hay from an infested area of Ohio was found in Pennsylvania in the spring of 1964, and was turned back for fumigation.

Kharpa Beetle—Several shipments, suspected of being infested with this foreign pest of stored grain, were inspected and treated during the year. The State currently is free of this insect.

Japanese Beetle—Turf treatment was completed at the Philadelphia Airport, where the insect had been a problem. During periods of beetle activity, planes leaving Philadelphia for non-infested areas had to be treated with an insecticide. In addi-



Huge collection aids insect identification work.

tion to being costly and inconvenient, treatment of planes offered questionable control.

Stem Rust Control—Approximately 3,000 square miles were inspected and 35,000 barberry bushes—plants that spread stem rust to small grain crops—were removed and destroyed. A state appropriation of \$20,000 for the project was shared by 11 participating counties.

Oak Wilt Control—More than 1,000 diseased trees, and 7,700 others in zones surrounding diseased trees were cut out and treated to prevent spread of this disease. More than 400 hours of flying time were spent in locating affected areas.

Insect Surveys

For the second consecutive year, Japanese beetles appeared to be on

the decline in most sections of the state with the exception of western and northwestern counties. Small pockets of infestation still exist, however, in other areas. Survey reports also showed:

Mimosa webworm on honey locust trees, very light except in Allegheny, Washington and Westmoreland counties, and in a few nurseries near Harrisburg.

Fall webworm, abundant in western and north central counties.

Bag worm, spotty throughout affected area with indications of a slow build-up developing in a few sections.

Fall canker worm, serious infestations in about 500,000 acres in north central counties. Reported by Department of Forests and Waters following cooperative survey with the U.S. Forest Service.

Apiary Inspection

A total of 6,356 apiaries in the Commonwealth, with 46,797 bee colonies, were inspected. Inspectors found 833 colonies infected with American Foul Brood, 136 infected with sac brood, 158 colonies with cross comb, and 60 in old-fashioned box hives. Infected and illegal colonies were destroyed.

The incidence of American Foul Brood was 1.7 per cent of the colonies inspected, compared to the 10-year average of 2.34 per cent.

Nursery Inspection

This program was expanded, in the spring of 1964, to extend inspection service to commercial greenhouses. There was a two-fold purpose: to help greenhouse operators overcome problems caused by plant pests, and to assure consumers improved quality plants.

In preparation for the 1964 season, inspection and certification applications were mailed to 2,297 nurseries.

Seed Inspection

A total of 4,535 samples were received for testing. The work included 2,651 checks for labeling accuracy; 1,205 purity analyses; 3,058 examinations for noxious weeds; 5,006 germination tests; 661 test weight checks, and 64 moisture tests.

A new service was instituted to detect chemical treatment on seed. Tests were made of 1,318 samples to determine if seed was adequately treated as indicated on the tag, and if treated seed was unfit for use as human or animal feed.

Seed Certification

Seed produced on 9,580 acres was certified during the 1963-64 season, with small grains and hybrid corn accounting for 8,440 acres.

Ceylon, Mexico and South Africa imported 1,507 pounds of Pennsylvania certified tomato seed, more than double the amount shipped to foreign countries in 1962.

The 1963 certified seed potato crop had the lowest virus count on record—three-tenths of one per cent. The permissible level is 2 per cent.



Inspector examines grain in field of certified seed.

State

Farm Show

The 48th annual Farm Show, built around the theme "Forward With Agribusiness, Pennsylvania's Major Industry," brought into sharp focus the role of agriculture as the keystone of a broad economy that embraces many related industries.

This new, forward look was emphasized in a special program prepared for the Sunday night Governor's preview when commodity queens presented products of Pennsylvania to Governor William W. Scranton.

It also was reflected in practically every phase of the 1964 event which was held from January 13 through 17. Exhibit quality was definitely higher, although a lack of available space continues to affect the Show's potential. The special attractions—State Police rodeo, folk dance festival, tractor driving contest, horse pulling, livestock parade and junior horse show—were especially well received.

In competitive events, 3,812 exhibitors had 10,767 entries in the Show's 27 departments. Premium awards totaled \$51,034.

A record \$5.12 a pound was paid for the show's grand champion steer, shown by William Rishel, 19, of York. Another record breaker was the price paid for the grand champion 4-H lamb—\$4 a pound. It was shown by Donald Miller, of Elizabethtown.

Attendance, however, was the lowest in a decade as the result of a record breaking snow storm. The

20-inch snowfall—heaviest in Farm Show history—blocked roads and parking areas and curtailed operations in general on the first two days. As a consequence, total attendance was about 200,000 less than in the previous year.

Preparations are underway for the 1965 Farm Show, scheduled from January 11 through 15.

Livestock Exposition

More than 30 other events were held in the Farm Show Building during the year, including the seventh annual Pennsylvania Livestock Exposition.

The Livestock show attracted a record number of entries—3,397—from 20 states and Canada. Three hundred 4-H youths from 50 counties, nearly double former participation, competed in a horse show that was a featured attraction. Twenty-three judging teams from 19 states—another record number—competed in intercollegiate and junior livestock judging events.



Machinery exhibits popular.

Soil and Water Conservation Commission

Luzerne County was declared a soil and water conservation district by the Luzerne Commissioners February 14, 1964, making it the 62nd district in the state. The district officially began operation in July. Only Forest, Cameron, Blair, Delaware and Philadelphia counties are not districts.

Governor William W. Scranton appointed Donald R. Stephens to the State Soil and Water Commission, to replace Glenn E. Smith whose term expired. The new member is a district director and treasurer of the Pennsylvania Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Directors, Inc.

Education and Publicity

Production of a 13½-minute movie entitled "A Plan for Penn's Land" has been completed. The film explains the application of soil surveys and conservation measures in seeking to solve problems encountered by builders, industries, suburbanites and public landowners. Ten copies are available for public use and may be obtained from the Harrisburg

office of the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

Ten one-minute "spot" films are also available for television use. These deal with soil and water conservation and agriculture in general. Robert G. Struble, commission consultant, was in charge of producing the film and TV spots.

Soil Surveys

The commission continued to support the state's soil survey program. The characterization laboratory at the Pennsylvania State University is emphasizing percolation tests and the collection of other data.

Forty-two counties are being surveyed; a total of 1,191,925 acres having been surveyed in 1963. Completed survey reports for 10 counties have been published, three in 1963.

Legislation

Three commission supported measures were passed by the 1963 General Assembly which amended Act 217, the Conservation Law by which districts and the commission operate. The three amendments (1) changed the name of districts and the commission to "Soil and Water Conservation Districts" and "Soil and Water Conservation Commission," (2) allowed a non-farmer member to be on the board of soil and water conservation district directors, and (3) simplified the procedure of selecting directors to permit nominations by mail.

Centre and Luzerne counties each appointed a non-farmer member to the board of directors.

Watershed Activities

One application for assistance under U. S. Public Law 566 was re-

ceived for Jacobs Creek Watershed, Westmoreland and Fayette counties. It was approved.

Priority for planning the Drinker Creek, Susquehanna County, and Wolf Creek, Mercer County, projects was recommended to the U. S. Soil Conservation Service. Continued assistance was provided the Mahantango Watershed Association in Dauphin, Northumberland and Schuylkill counties.

Updating District Work Plans

Commission staff members are assisting soil and water conservation districts which have begun to update their work plans to include long-range goals. This is part of a nationwide effort to meet, at the district level, challenges brought about by new uses of our natural resources and new programs dealing with their conservation. This updating is expected to be done in the next two years.



Rural communities develop water conservation plans.

State

Harness Racing

Commission

The State Harness Racing Commission has general jurisdiction over pari-mutuel harness racing in Pennsylvania. It is responsible for licensing corporations, associations and all persons who conduct or participate in harness racing with pari-mutuel wagering.

In the 1963 season, first for the State's newest sports activity, 1,350

races were held on 150 racing days in three meets at two tracks. Total attendance was 1,206,833.

The Commonwealth received income of \$3,503,917, the bulk of which was derived from taxes on wagers and admissions.

In its first season, Pennsylvania racing gained an enviable reputation for high-calibre competition and excellent track conditions. World record times were set in a number of events, and 22 one-mile races were clocked in two minutes or less.

An all-weather track surface was installed at The Meadows in Washington County. The synthetic material, unaffected by weather, permits racing and training under all conditions.

Funds Allocated to Various Programs

Cash Basis—July 1, 1963 to June 30, 1964

Administration.....	\$ 247,574.36	4.7%
Bureau of Animal Industry	\$1,823,631.65	
Animal Idemnities	82,130.80	
Total	\$1,905,762.45	35.8%
Bureau of Foods and Chemistry	\$ 465,404.60	
Seed and Fertilizer	116,440.55	
Transfers to GSA for Laboratory Equipment.....	95,905.00	
Total	\$ 677,750.15	12.7%
Bureau of Markets.....	\$ 444,607.56	
Encouraging Agricultural Exhibits.....	55,000.00	
Federal-State Marketing Programs	41,965.24	
Pennsylvania Fair Fund.....	773,903.00	
Total	\$1,315,475.80	24.6%
Bureau of Plant Industry	\$ 323,714.15	
Control of Stem Rust.....	19,284.05	
Total	\$ 342,998.20	6.5%
Oil and Water Conservation Commission	\$ 180,385.66	3.4%
Farm Show	\$ 452,024.47	
Livestock Show.....	49,775.27	
Junior Dairy Show.....	15,000.00	
Total	\$ 516,799.74	9.7%
State Harness Racing Commission	\$ 140,629.59	2.6%
TOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE	\$5,327,375.95	

